(3) Projects have been sanctioned to create barrier free facilities in the State Administrative Training Institutes promote these facilities in other Government/public buildings.

(c) Does not arise.

Adoption of Tsunami Affected Children

3357. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a large number of requests for adoption of children orphaned due to the Tsunami by the Indian National and foreign organizations; and

(b) the guidelines issued by the central and concerned State agencies on adoption of such children and the conditions for qualifying as adoption agencies and institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Government of India have received requests for adoption of children orphaned by Tsunami from a large number of people including Indian individuals, organizations and foreign nationals.

(b) No fresh guidelines have been issued for such children by the Central Government.

Street Children Below Poverty Line

3358. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have conducted any census on the number of street children/below poverty line children;

(b) if so, the latest figures thereof;

(c) whether any concrete steps are proposed to be taken by Government to provide them all the facilities that are enjoyed by the fortunate children and make them responsible citizens;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is implementing a scheme—'An Integrated Programme for Street Children' with the aim of preventing destitution and withdrawal of children from a life on the street and their placement into national mainstream. The scheme provides for shelter, nutrition, health care, sanitation and hygiene, safe drinking water, education and recreational facilities and protection against abuse and exploitation to destitute and neglected street children.

Schemes for Welfare of Minorities

3359. SHRI MOTIUR RAHMAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes being implemented for welfare of minorities in Bihar;

(b) the details of the actual benefits that have accrued to the minorities in the State as a result thereof;

(c) the details of the complaints/suggestions received so far in respect of such schemes; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) Following schemes are being implemented for welfare of minorities in the country including Bihar:

(i) Scheme of Pre-examination Coaching for weaker sections including minorities, based on economic criteria for recruitment in services and admission in professional courses.

(ii) Area Intensive & Madrasa Modernisation Scheme under the Ministry of Human Resource Development.

(iii) In addition, the National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation (NMDFC) provides loans for the economic empowerment of Minorities and loans for pursuing professional and technical courses.